

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 04890 181216Z

43

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 IGA-01 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 OMB-01 /071 W

----- 111597

P R 181057Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4827

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

SECDEF WASHDC/DSAA

USAF ACS/LG WASHDC

CINCPAC CAMP HM SMITH, HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM HI

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI UDORN

PACAF PROCUREMENT CEN BKK TH/LGP

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PASS AID

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMER, PFOR, LA, US

SUBJ: RAL EMPLOYEES' DEMANDS

REF: A) STATE 161420

B) PACAF PROCUREMENT CEN BKK 11100ZJUL75 (NOTAL)

1. ON TUESDAY, JULY 15, I SENT FOLLOWING LETTER IN
FRENCH TO MINPUBWORKS SIGNKAPO, COPY TO PANYA SOUVANNA
PHOUMA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF RAL:

BEGIN TEXT

FOLLOWING OUR CONVERSATION LAST WEEK, WE RECEIVED
A MESSAGE FROM THE CENTER IN BANGKOK WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE
FOR CONTRACTS OF OUR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. THIS MESSAGE
NOTES THAT THE CONTRACT WITH RAL IS ESTABLISHED ON THE
BASIS OF A FIXED PRICE WHICH INCORPORATES ALL BENEFITS -
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 04890 181216Z

INCLUDING ALL PAYMENT FOR SEVERANCE. THE CONTRACT

FILE CONTAINS A MEMORANDUM FROM RAL, DATED JUNE 28, 1974, FROM WHICH THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE IS CITED:
"SUBJECT TO OUR PRIOR DISCUSSION CONCERNING YOUR DECISION THAT NO EMPLOYEE FRINGE BENEFITS WOULD BE ON A REIMBURSEABLE BASIS, ROYAL AIR LAO MODIFIES ITS BID AS FOLLOWS: THE PRICE FOR A CONTRACT OF 35,000 MANHOURS IS RAISED TO \$235,660.94 FROM \$209,568.04 IN ORDER TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE POSITION OF THE CONTRACT OFFICER THAT PAYMENT FOR SEPARATION, REPATRIATION AND ALL BENEFITS WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE FIXED PRICE OF THE CONTRACT."

THEREFORE, IT APPEARS CLEARLY THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL SEPARATION PAY REVOLVES SOLELY ON ROYAL AIR LAO; THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CANNOT ACCEPT ANY RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS REGARD. IT IS A MATTER BETWEEN EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEES, JUST AS THE GOVERNMENT TOLD US IN THE CASE OF USAID AND ITS EMPLOYEES.

WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM AID IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THIS MESSAGE REAFFIRMS THAT THE AGENCY IS READY TO FULFILL ITS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS, BUT NOT EXCESSIVE DEMANDS FOR SEPARATION PAY.

COMPLIMENATRY CLOSE. END TEXT.

2. ON TUESDAY, JULY 17, WE ALSO RECEIVED FOLLOWING LETTER IN LAO ADDRESSED "TO CHARGE - FROM PRINCE PANYA, DIRECTOR OF RAL."

BEGIN TEXT.

ACCORDING TO YOUR EXPLANATION ON THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1975, AT U.S. EMBASSY, RAL COMPANY HAS FORWARDED ALL IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS CONCERNING WORKLOAD UNDER USAID CONTRACT NO. A.I.D. 439-CS-0001 AND DAO CONTRACT NO. F62272-75-C-0001 WHICH WERE MANAGED BY MR. ED PETERSON AS REPRESENTATIVE OF RAL AT HAWAII.

I AM WELL AWARE THAT YOU HAVE PROMISED US TO CLEAR UP EVERYTHING CONCERNING THESE CONTRACTS BECAUSE US EMBASSY HAS TAKEN OVER ALL RESPONSIBILITIES FROM ALL ORGANIZATION MANAGED BY AMERICAN PEOPLE WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 VIENTI 04890 181216Z

WERE IN LAOS BEFORE THE MONTH OF JULY 1975.

I AM HAPPY YOU HAVE MADE YOUR DECISION AND WILLINGLY FORWARD THE DOCUMENTS TO YOU. CONCERNING

RAL HAWAII, IT CLOSED BUSINESS AS OF JUNE 30, 1975 AND ALL CONTRACTS/EMPLOYEES UNDER IT WERE THEREBY TERMINATED.

US EMBASSY WAS ABLE TO GIVE 3 MONTHS SEVERANCE

PAY AND OTHER ALLOWANCE AS PER THE AGREEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF USAID DEMONSTRATOR, TO OTHER AMERICAN MANAGED ORGANIZATION WHICH WERE UNDER US CONTRACT, SUCH AS TAPS, UNIVERSAL AMERICAN ENTERPRISE AND OB HOSPITAL. THEREFORE, AS RAL AT HAWAII HAS THE SAME CONTRACT AS THESE ABOVE MENTIONED ORGANIZATION WE SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE THE SAME SETTLEMENT.

ATTACHED IS BILLING FOR FINAL EMPLOYEE PAYMENT.

HOPE THIS AMOUNT OF MONEY WILL BE PAID BEFORE JULY 15, 1975 TO DEMONSTRATE OUR GOOD RELATIONS AND FURTHER RAL TRUST IN AMERICA.

WE ARE REQUESTING MR. CHRISTIAN A. CHAPMAN'S PROMPT CONSIDERATION.

TRULY YOURS

PRINCE PANYA SOUVANNAPHOUMA

DIRECTOR GENERAL RAL

SEEN AND SIGNED BY MINISTER

OF NATIONAL PUBLIC WORK AND TRANSPORTATION. END TEXT.

3. ATTACHED TO LETTER WERE 151 EMPLOYEE SEVERANCE NOTICES (OUT OF 152 TOTAL EMPLOYEES), PLUS TWO INVOICES SEPARATELY BILLING USAID AND DAO FOR SEVERANCE PAY AND EXCEPTIONAL BONUSES. USAID IS BILLED FOR A TOTAL OF 16,078,340 KIP (\$21,437.78 OFFICIAL RATE), OF WHICH 5,929,740 KIP (\$7,906.32) IS TO REIMBURSE SEPARATION BENEFITS PAID BY RAL AND 10,148,600 KIP (\$13,531.46) IS FOR EXCEPTIONAL BONUSES (COMPUTED ON FORMULA PREVIOUSLY EXTORTED BY USAID EMPLOYEES.) AS REGARDS THE DAO CONTRACT, THE RAL TOTAL BILLING AMOUNTS TO 20,121,670 KIP (\$26,828.89) FOR "EXCEPTIONAL BONUS" USAID FORMULA. (WHOLE PACKAGE HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO PACAF PROCUREMENT CENTER, BANGKOK, AND AID WASHINGTON).
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PAGE 04 VIENTI 04890 181216Z

4. I HAVE BEEN TRYING UNSUCCESSFULLY TO REACH MINPUB WORKS SINGKAPO AND PANYA. I HAVE HOWEVER FILLED IN COL. MANGKHALA SOUVANNA PHOUMA, PRIMIN'S OTHER SON AND PANYA'S BROTHER, FOR THE PRIMIN'S INFORMATION. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO SOLDIER FORWARD.
CHAPMAN

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Message Attributes

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